The Los Alamos Super Vault Type Room



May, 2008

Alex Kent

Advanced Computing Solutions Program/Cyber Futures Laboratory

Los Alamos National Laboratory







Towards A Strategic Solution Space

- A decade of events...
 - Lost data/9-Points/Media incompatibility
 - Lost hard disks/Accountable Classified Removable Media
 - Lost barcodes/Increased ACREM accountability
 - Lost data/Thumb drives/Port blocking
- Commonality
 - Trusted insiders (cleared) doing inadvertent or purposeful actions resulting in loss
- Solution
 - More ubiquitous control and security of classified information both at rest and while in use
 - Yet still allow a productive work environment?



Think classified co-location facility managed like safety deposit boxes at a bank

- Compartmentalized, segregated control
- Professionally managed environment
- Full-service computer center
 - Cooling, power backup, etc
- System/data owners maintain final physical control







The Paradigm: An Information/Data Glove Box

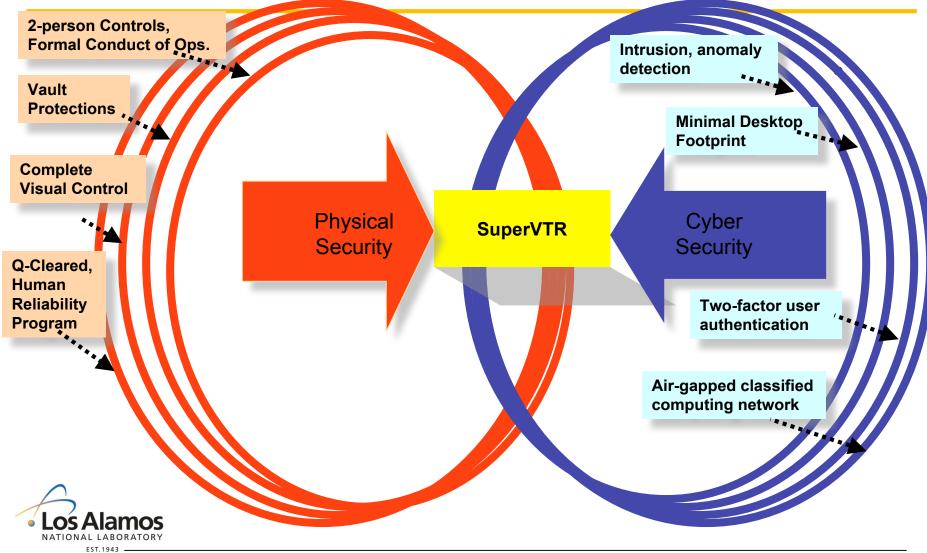
With data processing and storage residing within the well protected Super VTR environment:

- Users can...
 - Create, manipulate, and management classified information and data
- Users cannot...
 - Electronically extract or remove classified information and data

Residual vulnerability reduced to the single threat of capturing low-bandwidth screen/keyboard/mouse data only



Synergistic Integrationof Physical and Cyber Security Layers



Integrated Safety and Security Management Human Performance Improvement

- Layered security
 - Separate and well defined user and processing environments
- Engineered controls
 - Centralized (server-side) control of user data ports
 - Constrained network environment
 - Simplified system management
- Reduced opportunity for error
 - Focus expertise and responsibility
 - KISS
- Increased user productivity





Cost Saving and Simplification

- Reduced information and physical security complexity
 - Reduced physical footprint
 - Reduced security services
 - Reduced risk of costly security incidents
- Close down existing vaults and related staffing
- Avoid vault sensor and alarm upgrade costs
- Reduced security costs for desktops and related protections
- Reduced VTR/Cyber security related work required by programmatic staff

... while substantially *increasing* security and programmatic productivity

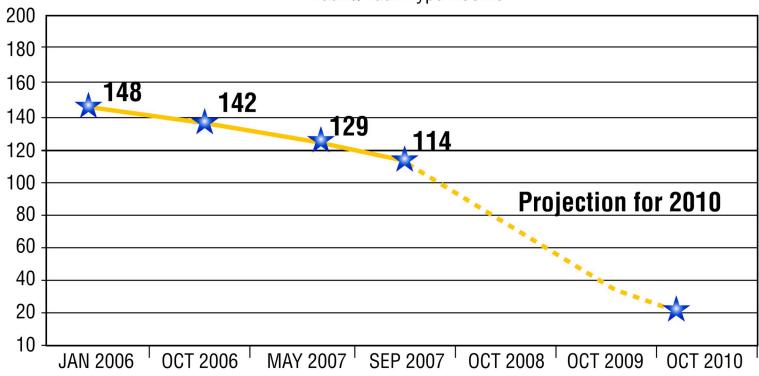




Reduced Physical Vulnerability

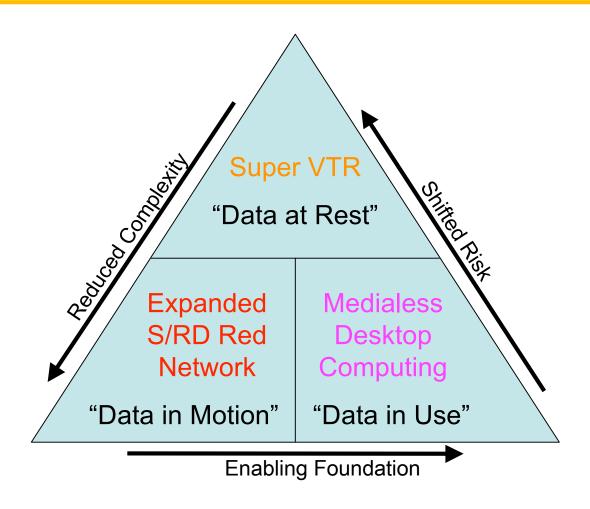
LANL Reduction of V/VTRs

Vaults/Vault Type Rooms





Comprehensive Classified Computing Capability







Moving the vulnerability/threat space from the office environment to the Super VTR

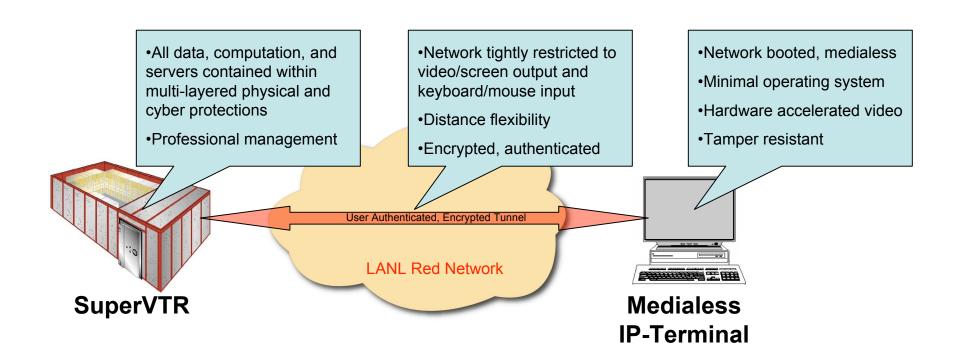
- Medialess office computing, minimal electronics
- Finite selection of strongly vetted medialess desktop options
- All data storage and control exists only within the Super VTR
- Systems approach with complete end-to-end security
- Specialized, restricted IP network outside of SVTR that only allows medialess computing protocols to transit
- Increased anomaly detection designed specific to the risks, threats, and vulnerabilities of a classified, air-gapped network
- Agility to respond to future threats and requirements

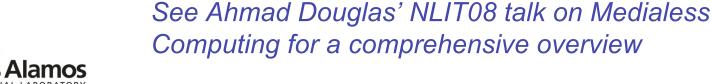






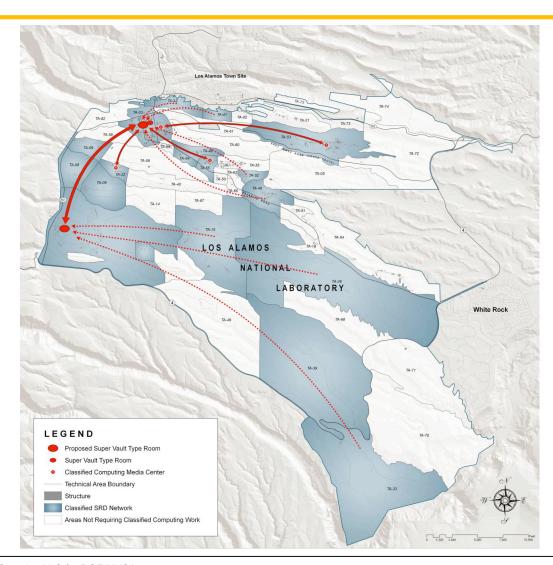
Ubiquitous end-to-end security with robust usability







The Network: Tying it together





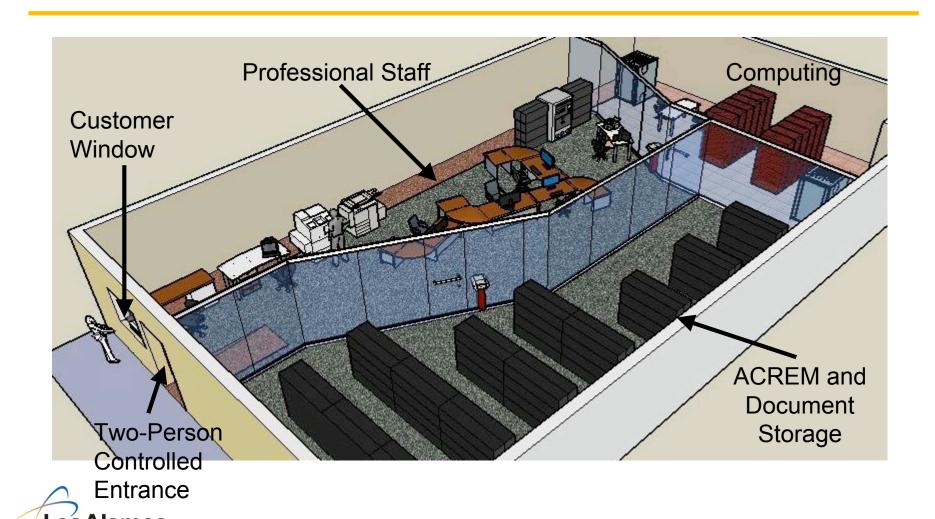


The Super VTR Prototype

- Planning began in Spring 2007, went operational in Summer 2007
 - Remodeled room within an existing computing facility
- Focused on demonstrated both the physical and cyber concepts and integration
- Understanding that it was insufficient to meet the entire Laboratory's needs
- Currently in full operation
 - Contains and services approximately 75% of LANL's classified ACREM
 - Provides classified medialess computing service to approximately ~150 users
 - Currently under expansion for supporting SIPRnet and other classified computing with estimates to serve an additional 200 users
 - Other information services available



Super VTR Prototype Cutout View





Operational Super VTR Prototype

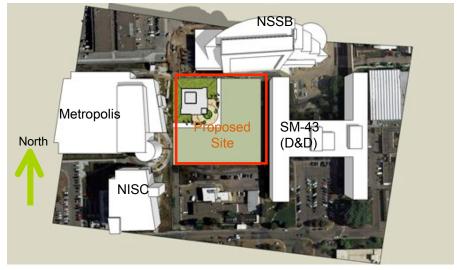




From Prototype to Full Scale

- Funding provided in LANL FY08 budget
- Planning underway
- Central standalone facility within main (TA-3) site
- Backup facility to follow







Enabled Future Technologies

Physical Security

- Video monitoring and surveillance of the SVTR
- Programmatic key control
- RF control
- RFID tagging
- Biometrics

Cyber Security

- Printed document water marks
- Fully realized PL-3 cyber environment
- STE bridge and audio capability on desktops (VoIP)
- Authenticated print/copy/scan system
- Security anomaly detection on cyber+physical





Questions?

Contact Information:

Alex Kent (alex@lanl.gov)

Scott Miller (samiller@lanl.gov)





